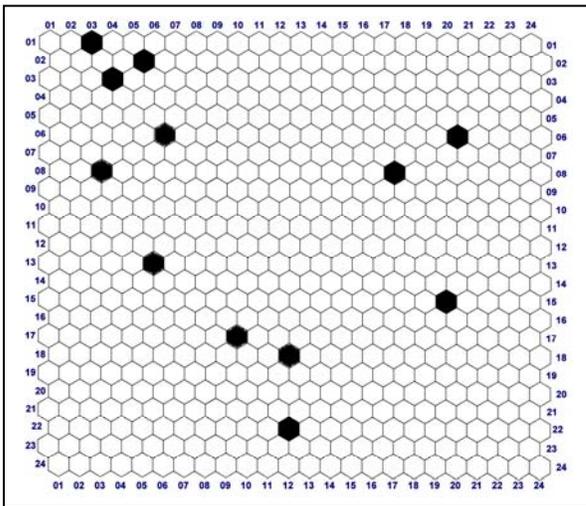


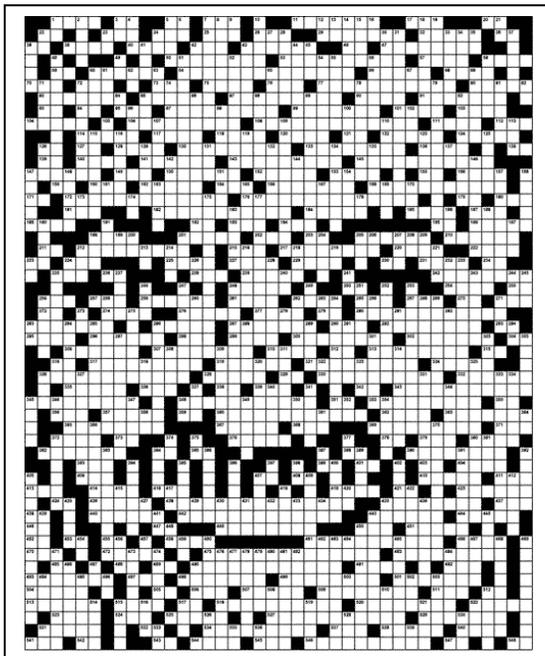
The Stratospheric Aerosol and Gas Experiment III (SAGE III), the sensor will be installed on the International Space Station (ISS) sometime in 2014.

Aerosols are small particles that are suspended in the air. Examples include fog and smog, but also includes dust, soot and ash particles. These particles can affect climate, and can also cause health problems such as emphysema, asthma or even lung cancer.

Instead of measuring the amount of aerosols or pollutants by percentage, scientists often use units such as parts-per-million. This exercise helps you work with these units.



Problem 1 - Suppose you are 15 years old. How many parts-per-hundred is this of one century?



Problem 2 – You have a bag of 200 blue marbles, 280 green marbles and 20 red marbles. How many parts-per-thousand are the red marbles compared to the whole?

Problem 3 – Which of the figures to the left shows a concentration of black spots equal to
 A) 243000 parts-per-million?
 B) 50000 parts-per-million?
 C) 20833 parts per million?

Problem 1 - Suppose you are 15 years old. How many parts-per-hundred is this of one century?

Answer: 15 years is $15/100 = 15$ **pph** of 1 century.

Problem 2 – You have a bag of 200 blue marbles, 280 green marbles and 20 red marbles. How many parts-per-thousand are the red marbles compared to the whole?

Answer: The total number of marbles is $200+280+20 = 500$. So the 20 red marbles is $20/500 = 4/100$ or **4 pph** of the total number of marbles.

Problem 3 – Which of the figures to the left shows a concentration of black spots equal to A) 243000 parts-per-million? B) 50000 parts-per-million? C) 20833 parts per million?

Answer: First let's find out how many squares we have.

Top = $10 \times 10 = 100$ total and 5 black so $5/100$ are black

Middle = $24 \times 24 = 576$ squares and there are 12 black so $12/576$ are black

Bottom = $40 \times 50 = 2000$ squares and there are 486 black so $486/2000$ are black

Lets use pph = parts-per-hundred
 ppt = parts per thousand and
 ppm = parts per million.

We can write the top as 5 pph = 50 ppt = 50,000 ppm

Middle as $12/576 = 0.0208333 = 2.0833$ pph = 20.833 ppt = 20833 ppm

Bottom as $486/2000 = 0.243 = 24.3$ pph = 243 ppt = 243000 ppm

So the answers are

- A) Is the bottom figure
- B) Is the top figure
- C) Is the middle figure

Note: The concentration of carbon dioxide in our atmosphere has increased from 335 ppm to nearly 390 ppm since 1975!